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COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests
Fourth session
11-21 February 1997
Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREST-RELATED DECISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS, INCLUDING AN EXAMINATION OF SECTORAL AND CROSS-SECTORAL LINKAGES

Letter dated 15 January 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of Colombia and Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

The Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of Denmark to the United Nations and the International Alliance of the Indigenous/Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests have the honour to transmit to you copies in English and Spanish language of the "Proposals for Action" and the "Leticia-Declaration" adopted by the International Meeting of Indigenous and Other Forest-Dependent Peoples on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, which was an inter-sessional activity under the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests. The meeting was held in Leticia, Colombia, from 9 to 13 December 1996 at the invitation of the International Alliance of the Indigenous/Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests and co-sponsored by the Governments of Colombia and Denmark.

The above-mentioned documents constitute the indigenous peoples' contributions to the ongoing process in the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and should provide an input to the fourth session of the Ad Hoc

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* E/CN.17/IPF/1997/1.

** The letter has also been signed by Mr. Joji Cariño, Executive Secretary of the International Alliance of the Indigenous/Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests, a non-governmental organization.

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Intergovernmental Panel on Forests, to be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 11 to 21 February 1997.

May we ask for your kind consideration in circulating these attached papers as part of the official documentation of the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests.

(Signed) Julio LONDOÑO-PAREDES
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Colombia
to the United Nations

(Signed) Benny KIMBERG
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Denmark
to the United Nations

RESULTS

of the

International Meeting of
Indigenous and Other Forest-Dependent Peoples
on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development
of All Types of Forests

LETICIA, COLOMBIA
9 - 13 DECEMBER 1996

A Contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests

Co-sponsored by the Governments of Colombia and Denmark

Organized by the International Alliance of Indigenous-Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests, the Co-ordinating Body of Indigenous Organisations in the Amazon Basin (COICA) and the Organisation of Indigenous Peoples of the Colombian Amazon-region (OPIAC)

1. INTRODUCTION

The **"International Meeting of Indigenous and Other Forest-Dependent Peoples on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests"** took place in Leticia, Colombia on 9 - 13 December 1996.

The Governments of Colombia and Denmark were jointly sponsors of the meeting, which was organised by the International Alliance of Indigenous-Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests, The Co-ordinating Body of Indigenous Organisations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) and the Organisation of Indigenous Peoples of the Colombian Amazon (OPIAC).

Around 100 delegates participated in the meeting, divided as follows [1]:

- indigenous peoples from different regions, tropical and non-tropical, throughout the world:
  - Latin America (14)
  - Africa (4)
  - Asia-Pacific (9)
  - Northern forest regions (5)
- other forest-dependent peoples (5)
- non-governmental organisations (13)
- governmental representatives in their individual expert capacity (13)
- international agencies, including the IPF and CSD secretariat (6)
- local indigenous communities (10)
- Colombian invitees (12)
- observers (8)

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the inter-sessional meeting was to contribute to the IPF process and to formulate proposals for action and resolutions for IPF 4, on matters related to indigenous and other forest peoples issues.

In addition, the meeting also provided the opportunity for indigenous and other forest peoples' organisations, to meet and discuss matters pertaining to their interests and views in relation to forests, and the various international processes where these issues are discussed.

As a major international meeting of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples, the meeting discussed the promotion of Indigenous Peoples' action and participation in the implementation of Agenda 21, and post-UNCED action on environment and sustainable development.

Within the IPF's programme of work, four major themes were identified to be discussed during the intersessional meeting:

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[1] List of participants attached

1. traditional forest-related knowledge
2. national land use and forest programmes
3. underlying causes of deforestation
4. international mechanisms and instruments.

BACKGROUND TO THE MEETING

The Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) at its first meeting, requested the Secretary General to prepare all the relevant reports on these elements, drawing on the work of the existing institutions, and promoting the participation and contributions of all relevant sectors and organisations.

At the second meeting of the IPF in March 1996, an initial discussion took place on programme element I.3 --Traditional forest-related knowledge—and a substantive discussion was held at its third meeting in September 1996.

With a view to enhancing and strengthening the contribution of indigenous and other forest peoples to the IPF deliberations, the International Alliance of Indigenous-Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests together with the WorldWide Fund for Nature International (WWF) urged the IPF to organise an inter-sessional meeting between IPF 3 and IPF 4 on the cross-cutting theme of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples and sustainable forest management.

Subsequently, the Governments of Colombia and Denmark agreed their sponsorship of this meeting, which was proposed and accepted at IPF3 and welcomed by numerous Indigenous Peoples' and other forest peoples' organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), international agencies and different UN-bodies.

2. ORGANISATION OF THE WORK

The International Meeting was divided into two parts:

- 9 - 10 December (2 days) - Preparatory Meeting of the Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples
- 11 - 13 December (3 days) - Intersessional Meeting under the IPF.

THE PREPARATORY MEETING

An integral part of the meeting was a two day preparatory meeting of the representatives of indigenous and other forest dependent peoples, in which the participants had an opportunity to exchange in plenary sessions, information and experiences relating to the themes in the different regions of the world.

Briefing papers were prepared for the Leticia Meeting to serve as orientation documents for the

participants and as basis for discussions during the workshops on the different themes:

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Forests: An Introduction
- National Land Use and Forest Plans
- Underlying Causes of Deforestation
- Protection and Use of Traditional Forest Related Knowledge
- International Institutions and Mechanisms
- Background Paper on the UN Sub-Commissions Working Group on Indigenous Populations.

Inaugural session and keynote addresses

The inaugural ceremony of the meeting, held on 9th of December, included keynote addresses and welcome remarks by the following speakers:

- Ms. Daisy Criollo, in representation of OPIAC (Organización de Pueblos Indígenas de la Amazonía Colombiana)
- Mr. Antonio Jacanamijoy Tisoy, general co-ordinator of COICA (Coordinadora de Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica)
- Mr. Abadio Green Stocel, president of ONIC (Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia)
- Mr. Reynaldo Giagrecudo Pacaya, OPIAC, together with Maria Celena, presented a ltural welcome act from the part of the Huitoto indigenous people of the Amazonas depa. nent of Colombia
- Ms. Herminia Degawan, representing the International Alliance of Indigenous-Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests,
- Mrs. Ana Luz Rodríguez of the Ministry of Environment of Colombia, in representation of the Minister of Environment of Colombia
- Mr. Bjørn Olsen Blau, representing the Danish government
- Mr. Félix Francisco Acosta Soto, Governor of the Amazonas province who declared the meeting for opened.

After the inaugural session, the preparatory meeting started with an orientation session on international processes affecting Indigenous Peoples followed by an open discussion on

- the post UNCED activities, including the UNCSD and IPF processes;
- the background and objectives of the Leticia Meeting;
- other international instruments, mechanisms and activities affecting indigenous peoples including the UN Commission on Human Rights, the UN International Decade for Indigenous Peoples, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the ILO.

It was concluded that local actions and struggles to strengthen communities and secure indigenous rights are the top priority but that international policies and programmes have strong influence on national policies and impact on local communities. Therefore it was important to link up the local with the global, to actively participate in international meetings to open up spaces for local initiatives to flourish, to be well informed and prepared for these meetings, to access information and to make experiences and information more widely known among Indigenous Peoples.

However, the participation of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples in international mechanisms encounters major difficulties, due to lack of information and understanding, funding limitations, accreditation procedures and local factors. Despite these identified difficulties, the preparatory meeting resolved to pursue the international process, specifically this intersessional meeting, to put forward principles and recommendations for action.

The preparatory meeting, also attended by the representatives of governments, NGOs and international agencies as observers, included working group discussions on the major themes of the meeting and forwarded recommendations for fuller consideration during the intersessional meeting.

Daily reports and summaries of conclusions and recommendations of each working group and of the plenary sessions were made throughout the whole week.

THE INTERSESSIONAL MEETING

The opening session of the Intersessional Meeting included speeches by:

- Mr. Manuel Rodriguez, Co-Chair of the IPF
- Ana Luz Rodriguez, Representative of the Ministry of Environment of Colombia
- Pedro Ramos de Souza, Brazilian Rubber Tappers Union
- Max Ooft, Technical Secretariat of the International Alliance of Indigenous-Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests.

Two chairpersons nominated by the indigenous preparatory meeting were elected to chair the meeting: Marcial Arias, Kuna from Panama, representating the Asociación Napguana, and Herminia Degawan, Kanakanaey-Igorot from the Philippines, representating the Cordillera Peoples Alliance.

After the opening ceremony, the meeting considered the four main themes, focusing on case study presentations by indigenous participants from different forest types and other speakers with a range of experiences. The following presentions were made:

National Land Use and Forest Programmes

1. Bill Ritchie, Assynt Crofters Trust, Scotland
2. Harold Browne, Amerindian Peoples Association, Guyana
3. Moses Mariri, Solomon Islands Indigenous Peoples Environmental Organisation

Underlying Causes of Deforestation

1. Pavel Suliandziga, Association of Indigenous Peoples of North Siberia and Vladimir Bocharnikov, Scientific Centre PRAIP, Russia
2. Sushil Saigal, Society for the Promotion of Wastelands Development, India and Jaweshwar Jerai, Jharkhandis Organisation for Human Rights, India
3. Alfred Ilenre, Ethnic Minority Rights Organisation of Africa, Nigeria

Traditional Forest-Related Knowledge

1. Tip Ruchaitrakul, Inter-Mountain Peoples Education and Culture Association in Thailand (IMPECT), Thailand and
   Devashish Roy, Bangladesh Indigenous and Hill Peoples' Association for Advancement; Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh
2. Gonzalo Oviedo, WWF-International
3. Peggy Smith, National Aboriginal Forestry Association and Observer for the Canadian Government, Canada
4. Abadio Green, Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia (ONIC).

International Mechanisms and Institutions

1. Julio Ruiz Murrieta, European Commission
2. Markku Aho, Department for International Development Cooperation, Finland
3. Marcial Arias, Asociación Napguana, Panama

Again working groups were formed, this time each group discussing all of the themes in depth, with a special focus on generating related recommendations and proposals for action relevant to Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples.

In the last day of the intersessional meeting, the conclusions, recommendations and proposals for action arising from the different working groups were extensively discussed. The Leticia Declaration and Proposals for Action were adopted and a drafting committee was asigned to finalise the documents.

A number of resolutions and urgent action letters were circulated for signatures on the following themes:

- Resolution on Conservation NGOs
- Resolution on Mangrove Forests
- Letter regarding Nomination of FENAMAD for the Bartolome de las Casas Prize
- Letter to the President of Colombia regarding Legal Guarantees on Indigenous Territories
- Letter to the President of El Salvador regarding Detention of 15 Persons.

3. RESULTS OF THE MEETING

The Leticia Declaration
and
Proposals for Actions

All peoples are descendants of the forest. When the forest dies we die. We are given responsibility to maintain balance within the natural world. When any part is destroyed, all balance is cast into chaos. When the last tree is gone, and the last river is dead, then people will learn that we cannot eat gold and silver. To nurture the land is our obligation to our ancestors, who passed this to us for future generations.

PREAMBLE

We, participants of the International Meeting of Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest - Dependent Peoples on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests,

Recognising that Indigenous Peoples enjoy the right of self-determination and by virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

Recognising that forests are the homes of many Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples and are fundamental to their survival as distinct peoples, forming the basis for their livelihoods, cultures and spirituality;

Recognising that nearly all forests are inhabited;

Recognising that the maintenance of cultural diversity and the welfare of Indigenous Peoples and forest-dependent peoples is a fundamental aspect of sustainable forest management;

Recognising that secure and long-term guarantees to lands and territories is essential to sustainable forest management;

Recognising that human rights, sustainable forest management and peace are interdependent and indivisible;

Recognising, therefore, that the interests of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples should have priority in any decisions about forests:

Therefore this meeting calls upon Governments, Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations and Major Groups involved in implementing Agenda 21) to support the following principles, conclusions and proposals for action:

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

That the rights, welfare, viewpoints and interests of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples should be central to all decision-making about forests at local, national, regional and international levels;

That their rights to their lands, territories, forests and other natural resources should be recognised, secured, respected and protected;

That they should have full control over the management, use and conservation of these resources;

That the representative institutions of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples should be fully recognised and respected;

That Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples need strong and autonomous organisations and support for the consolidation of indigenous systems and cultural institutions;

That new mechanisms should be established to ensure the equal participation of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples in decision-making on forests at all levels;

That Indigenous Peoples and other forest peoples constitute an important cross-cutting theme in the forest agenda, affecting many other issues;

That United Nations bodies, when dealing with Indigenous issues, should not narrowly work on sectoral themes but continue to engage in dialogue to enhance mutually enriching discussions, and to strengthen co-ordination;

That there should be wholehearted support for the current Draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples being discussed by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, and its relevance for the goals of sustainable development and sustainable forest management;

That these principles shall be applied in the management. conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

NATIONAL FOREST AND LAND USE PROGRAMMES:

National Forest and Land Use Programmes should promote broad participation and be decentralised to ensure a wide involvement in implementation;

Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples must play an integral part in national forest and land use planning;

Rights to and respect for Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples' lands and territories and tenure systems must be guaranteed in forms appropriate to them;

Within the framework of national and regional planning, decisions on land use must be devolved to the local level so that Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples can assert effective customary systems of sustainable forest management;

Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples' rights to rotational farming, hunting, gathering, fishing, grazing and other land use should be respected and secured within national land use and forest programmes;

All forest and land use planning activities that affect Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples must fully respect their customary systems of dispute settlement;

National land use and forest programmes should uphold international standards on the rights of indigenous peoples, with due consideration for the wishes of the Peoples concerned, including appropriate national legislation and implementation.

National governments are urged to respect indigenous communities and cultures across national frontiers and not continue with practices which divide Indigenous Peoples.

Proposals for Action

1. The IPF should acknowledge the importance of indigenous land use and resource rights, as well as customary law and indigenous legal systems, as inherently related to the forest issue.

2. To establish participatory mechanisms for national forest and land use planning which include the following elements:

- Equal access and full participation by Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples in national land use planning and forest programmes, at all stages of planning, implementation, monitoring, assessment and evaluation.

- Initiatives, programmes and projects must take into account customary land use and tenure systems of Indigenous and other forest dependent peoples, including rotational farming, hunting, gathering, fishing, grazing and others.

- No activities must take place on Indigenous Peoples' territories without their full and informed consent through their representative institutions, including the power of veto.

- No activities for resource utilisation or conservation, including the establishment of protected areas, must be initiated on lands of Indigenous Peoples and other forest

dependent peoples without security and full respect for their territorial rights.

- Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples must be included in the decision making process at all levels in all areas which affect them, including policy decisions of international development agencies, multilateral development banks and all trans-national corporations.

- Any benefits from territories of Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent Peoples must primarily be for their own local use and in accordance with principles of benefit-sharing established by them.

UNDERLYING CAUSES OF DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION:

Deforestation and forest degradation is exacerbated by a lack of understanding of the holistic worldviews and ways of life of Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples;

The underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation which urgently need to be addressed include the following:

- The failure of governments and other institutions to recognise and respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent Peoples to their territorial lands, forests and other resources;

- The increasing problem of landlessness among impoverished peasants who are denied access to land outside forest areas due to inequitable land ownership patterns, and who also have no alternate economic opportunities;

- Government policies and those of private sector industry are geared to exploit forest and mineral resources to the fullest extent for purely economic gain. These policies are often incompatible with other existing forest conservation policies. Such policies include substituting forests with industrial tree plantation for the pulp industry; oil and gas exploration by trans-national corporations; uncontrolled mining operations, and establishing nuclear waste storage sites on indigenous territories.

Proposals for Action

1. Genuine participatory mechanisms need to be developed which allow Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples a decisive voice in evaluations of deforestation processes and the evolution of appropriate policy responses.

2. Governments and other institutions are urged to pursue measures which can reduce pressure from industrial societies on forests by, inter alia, reducing consumption, reusing, recycling and substituting forest products as appropriate.

TRADITIONAL FOREST RELATED KNOWLEDGE:

Traditional forest-related knowledge is essential to sustainable forest management practices;

Traditional forest-related Knowledge is intimately bound up with Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples' ownership and control of their lands and territories and their continued management, use and conservation of all types of forests.

The contributions of women in the development, promotion and protection of indigenous knowledge must be acknowledged and supported;

The ownership of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples of their forest related traditional knowledge and contemporary innovations should be recognised and secured;

Traditional knowledge must remain alive, cultures must continue to develop, and indigenous contemporary knowledge and technologies must also be respected;

Use of this knowledge should not be made without the prior informed consent of the Peoples concerned;

Indigenous Peoples oppose the patenting of life forms, sacred plants and the Human Genome Diversity Project and the imposition of private intellectual property rights on collective indigenous knowledge and resources.

Proposals for action

1. New legislative frameworks and sui generis systems that recognise and effectively protect the cultural heritage and traditional forest related knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples must be established. These must be based on customary law and governance structures.

2. To note and support the actions and recommendations agreed by the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity during its third meeting relating to the implementation of Article 8j and other related areas.

3 To establish in the Amazon region a world university of Indigenous Peoples with the support of the international community. This University shall function under the direct administration of the Indigenous Peoples with the purpose to study, promote and protect Indigenous cultures, cosmo-vision and traditional knowledge. It shall be open to all peoples and cultures.

4. IPF4 should support the Principles and Guidelines for the Protection of the Heritage of Indigenous Peoples contained in the Final Report of the Special Rapporteur, Mrs. Erica- Irene Daes (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/26) covering definitions, transmission of heritage, recovery and restitution of heritage, national programmes and legislation, researchers and scholarly institutions, business and industry, artists, writers and performers, public information and

education and international organisations.

5. To undertake a series of expert meetings under the auspices of the CSD on sustainable development and territorial management, and the related issues of partnerships, agreements and legal frameworks for cultural heritage protection.

6. National governments and the international community are urged to support education programmes which promote the sustainable forest management practices of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent Peoples.

7. To implement broad technical capacity-building programmes on sustainable land use and forest management, giving special attention to settlers.

8. To support information exchange programmes between Indigenous Peoples and local communities on issues of intellectual and cultural rights, knowledge, innovations and practices.

9. To develop association agreements on sustainable forest management between Indigenous Peoples, other forest-dependent Peoples and groups living in the forest.

10. To establish an information centre and dissemination system to enable Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples to access all relevant information. Efforts should be made to make this information freely and widely available in languages and forms accessible to Indigenous Peoples.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER:

Proposals for Action

1. Financial assistance and mechanisms must be publicly accountable, transparent and unconditional. The IPF must also create possibilities for Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent Peoples to design their own financial mechanisms.

2. Indigenous Peoples and forest dependent peoples should directly access and receive technical assistance and support upon their own request. When such assistance is proposed by government agencies and other bodies it should only proceed with the approval of the Indigenous Peoples and forest dependent peoples.

3. Donor criteria should go beyond project financing, and also support the capacity- and institution-building of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent Peoples.

4 To set up an independent fund to enable Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples to enjoy full participation in the international forest policy debate. The funding mechanism must ensure independent, fair and equitable participation from all regions and all types of forests. Indigenous Peoples must be part of the administration of this fund.

CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT:

All criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management and certification principles must secure the spiritual, cultural, social and material well-being of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples.

Proposals for Action

1. Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples should be supported to carry out their own inventory of forest resources, and to define locally appropriate criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management.

INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS AND MECHANISMS:

All future international instruments and mechanisms dealing with forests should involve Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples in all stages of decision-making as equal partners.

The key areas that need to be addressed are participation and representation at the international level, access to relevant information and funding. In order to effectively participate in decision making processes, governments and other institutions must provide necessary support to help strengthen organisations of Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples.

Proposals for Action:

1. Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples must continue to have improved representation at all upcoming UN forums in the immediate future including IPF4, CSD 5 and the Special Session of the UN General Assembly in June 1997. All these meetings should register our participation as "Indigenous Peoples", a recognised Major Group in the implementation of Agenda 21.

2. Full support should be given to establishing a UN Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples during the UN Decade for Indigenous Peoples which will draw together human rights, environment and development issues.

3. Agenda 21 and the Forest Principles should be interpreted to harmonise with the UN Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with particular emphasis on the use of the term "peoples" in its documentation.

ACTION COMMITMENTS

The participants committed themselves to undertake concrete plan of action including the following:

- Identification of concrete participatory mechanisms for Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples to ensure full and equal participation in any post IPF forest processes and also the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- Creation of a global, regional and local network for the flow of appropriate information and proposals for action;
- Plan and seek support for a programme of action to facilitate Indigenous Peoples and forest dependent peoples
- Identification of locally appropriate criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management;
- Preparation of proposals for the inclusion of traditional forest-related knowledge by Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent peoples into tertiary education and professional training programmes within all nations;
- Prepare proposals at the national level for the education of all peoples, especially the young people about forest destruction and degradation and the role of Indigenous Peoples and forest-dependent peoples in managing and protecting our forest resources;
- Prepare proposals for regional meetings between Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent peoples and UN-agencies and other bodies to explore the implications of international instruments and agreements at the national and local level;National Indigenous Peoples' organisations should consider forming alliances with universities to create national forums for research, study and action.

CONCLUSIONS

The meeting requests the IPF to incorporate these principles and proposals for action in the final IPF Report during its fourth session.

The meeting also requested that the Leticia Declaration and Proposals for Action also be considered by the UN Commission on Sustainable Development during the 5th Session, the General Assembly Special Session and all other international forest policy deliberations.

The meeting requested the broadest dissemination of the Leticia Declaration and Proposals for Action to all relevant bodies.

A full Co-Chairpersons' Report on the Leticia Meeting will be made available to all participants of IPF4. All relevant documents are also available online electronically at: **ia.indig-tribal** (conference documentation in Greennet).

and from the International Technical Secretariat of the International Alliance of Indigenous-Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests
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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

of the International Meeting of Indigenous and Other Forest-Dependent Peoples on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests

Leticia, Colombia
9 - 13 December 1996

NR.	NAME	ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY
		INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	
LATIN AMERICA			
1.	Edwin Vasquez Campos	Asociación Inter-étnica de Desarrollo de la Selva Peruana (AIDESEP)	Peru
2.	Darcy Comapa	Coordenação das Organizações Indígenas da Amazonia Brasileira (COIAB)	Brazil
3.	Deicy Criollo	Organización de Pueblos Indígenas de la Amazonia de Colombia (OPIAC)	Colombia
4.	Luis Enrique Cunambi	Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas de la Amazonía de Ecuador (CONFENIAE)	Ecuador
5.	Coen Sabajo	Organisatie van Inheemsen in Suriname (OIS)	Suriname
6.	Harold Browne	Amerindian Peoples Association (APA)	Guyana
7.	Charles Auberic	Fèderacion des Organizacions Amerindiennes de Guyane (FOAG)	French Guyana
8.	Abadio Green	Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia (ONIC)	Colombia
9.	Antonio Jacanamijoy	Coordinadora de Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica (COICA)	Colombia
10.	Rogelio Guanuco	Asociación Indígena de la República Argentina (AIRA)	Argentina
11.	Jorge Cúc Barrera	Consejo de Organizaciones Mayas de Guatemala	Guatemala
12.	Marcial Arias Garcia	Asociación Napguana	Panama
AFRICA			
13.	Alfred Ilenre	Ethnic Minority Rights Organization in Africa (EMIROAF)	Nigeria
14.	Peter Okoh	African Peace Research Institute	Nigeria
15.	Lembulung Ole Kosyande	Kinnapa	Tanzania
16.	Emmanuel Pouna	Centre Internacional d'Etude Forestieres et Environmentales (CIEFC)	Cameroun
ASIA-PACIFIC			
17.	Tip Ruchaitrakul	Inter-Mountain Peoples Education and Culture in Thailand Association (IMPECT)	Thailand
18.	Rameshwar Jerai	Jharkhandis Organization for Human Rights (JOHAR)	India
19.	Raja Devasish Roy	Bangladesh Indigenous and Hill Peoples Association for Advancement	Bangladesh
20.	Herminia Degawan	Cordillera Peoples Association (CPA)	Philippines
21.	Margaret Mutu	Maori Congress	New Zealand
22.	Dipak Chaudhary	Adivasi Ekta Parishad	India
23.	Moses Bariri	Solomon Islands Indigenous Peoples Organization (SIIPEO)	Solomon Islands
NORTHERN FORESTS INDIGENOUS			
24.	Sharon Venne	Lubicon Cree	Canada
25.	Bev-Nii Anderson	Women's Indigenous Network	USA

26.	Olof Johansson	Saami Council	Sweden
27.	Ritva Torikka	Saami Council	Finland
28.	Pavel Suliandziga	Association of Indigenous Peoples of North Siberia	Russia
		OTHER FOREST DEPENDENT PEOPLES	
29.	Hernan Gotera Torres	Proceso de Organizaciones Afro-Americanos	Ecuador
30.	Sushil Saigal	Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development	India
31.	Pedro Ramos de Souza	Conselho Nacional de Seringueiros	Brazil
32.	Vladimir Bocharnikov	Pacific Institute of Geography; Russian Academy of Science; Scientific Research Centre of Primorsky Region Association of Indigenous People (PRAIP)	Russia
33.	Bill Ritchie	Assynt Crofters Trust	Scotland
		GOVERNMENTS	
34.	Ana Luz Rodriguez	Ministery of Environment	Colombia
35.	Jose Canivel	Department of Environment and Natural Resources	Philippines
36.	Luc Sa'a	Forestry Administration	Cameroun
37.	Frans Bach	National Forest and Nature Agency; Ministry of Environment and Energy	Denmark
38.	Bjørn Blau	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Denmark
39.	Markku Aho	Department for International Development Cooperation; Ministry for Foreign Affairs	Finland
40.	Flavio Goldman	Observer for Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Brasil
41.	Virginia Eugenia Haeser Pena	Observer for FUNAI; Ministerio da Justicia	Brasil
42.	Kiyohito Onuma	Forestry Agency; Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Japan
43.	Peggy Smith	Observer Canadian Government / National Aboriginal Forestry Association	Canada
44.	Gerson Revamales	Ministro Consejero; Venezuelan Embassy in Bogota	Venezuela
45.	Christian Mersmann	Ministry of Forestry and Agriculture / GTZ	Germany
46.	Antoine Nazaire Zossoungbo	Ministere de l'Environnement de l'Habitat et de lÚrbanisme	Benin
		INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES	
47.	Manuel Rodriguez	Intergovernmental Panel on Forests - Co-Chair	Colombia
48.	Jaime Hurtubia	Intergovernmental Panel on Forests - Secretariat	USA
49.	Zehra Aydin	Commission on Sustainable Development - Secretariat	USA
50.	Julio Murrieta	Directorate General XI (Environment) - European Commission	Belgium
51.	Chandra Roy	International Labor Organization (ILO)	Switzerland
52.	John Henriksen	UN Human Rights Centre - Indigenous Expert	Switzerland
		NGOs	
53.	Farhad Vania	Kalpavriksh	India
54.	Ricardo Carrere	World Rainforest Movement / Instituto del Tercer Mundo	Uruguay
55.	Jan-Willem Meurkens	Both Ends/Small World Media	Netherlands
56.	Marcus Colchester	Forest Peoples Programme (FPP) - World Rainforest Movement (WRM)	England
57.	Alejandro Parellada	International Working Grourp on International Affairs (IWGIA)	Denmark
58.	Andrew Gray	IWGIA/FPP-WRM	England
59.	Gonzalo Oviedo	World Wide Fund for Nature International (WWF)	Switzerland
60.	Lichen Brown	World Wide Fund for Nature International (WWF)	Switzerland
61.	Marta Nuñez	Latinamerican Forest Network	Ecuador
62.	Javier Marin Mori	Forest Engineering Faculty - University of the Peruvian Amazon	Peru

63.	Annett Görne	European Alliance with Indigenous Peoples	Belgium
64.	William Barclay	Greenpeace International	USA
65.	Soledad Bastidas Fedas	GTZ-SSt	Ecuador
		SECRETARIAT / BUREAU	
66.	Joji Carino	CPA / International Alliance Technical Secretariat	Philippines
67.	Max Ooft	OIS / International Alliance Technical Secretariat	Suriname
68.	Nepuni Piku	Naga Peoples Movement for Human Rights/ International Alliance Technical Secretariat	India
69.	Rodrigo de la Cruz	COICA	Ecuador
70.	Katy Armstrong	International Alliance Technical Secretariat	England
		COLOMBIAN INVITEES	
71.	Hermenegildo Estrella	Corpoamazonia	Colombia
72.	Juan Guinaja	Corpoamazonia	Colombia
73.	Irene Jansasoy	Dirección General de Asuntos Indigenas; Ministerio del Interior	Colombia
74.	Martin Von Hildebrand	Coama Colombia	Colombia
75.	Liliana Herrera Jurado	OPIAC Secretariat	Colombia
76.	Javier Munera	CEUDES	Colombia
77.	Reinaldo Giagrecudo	OPIAC	Colombia
78.	Adriana Villareal	OPIAC	Colombia
79.	Isidoro Jacanamijoy Tisoy	Musurrunacuna (Putumayo)	Colombia
80.	Fernando Pacheco Zuñiga	Consulate of Colombia in Tabatinga	Brasil
81.	Ituca Helena Marrugo Perez	Consulate of Colombia in Tabatinga Amazonas	Brasil
82.	Jose Vicente Estevez	Asuntos Indígenas - Ministerio del Interior	Colombia
		LOCAL INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES	
83.	Alfredo Iyokina Neika	Cabildo Coregimiento Chorrera	Colombia
84.	Leovijildo Manaideke Lopez	Gobernador del Cabildo Chorrera	Colombia
85.	Paulo H. Mendes	Conselho Geral da Tribu Tikuna - Tabatinga	Brasil
86.	Pedro Mendes Gabriel	Organização Saude Povos Tikuna - OPSTAS	Brasil
87.	Josefina Teteye de Moran	Gobernadora Cabildo Multi-Etnico Tacana	Colombia
88.	Marle F. Sanchez Bernal	Cabildo Multi-Etnico Tacana	Colombia
89.	Fidel Florez Diaz	Comunidad Huitoto Km. 11	Colombia
90.	Norberto Muñoz Agga	Organización Zonal Indígena Muruy del Encanto (OZINDE)	Colombia
91.	Alberto Paulo Borraez Garcia	Consejal Municipal - Cabildo Indigena Trapezio Amazónica	Colombia
92.	Maria Celina	Pueblos Huitoto	Colombia
93.	Victor Estrellas Soto	Cabildo Multi-Etnico Tacana	Colombia
		OBSERVERS	
94.	Alberto Lene Bojas ('Kapax')	Proyecto Kapax, Niños y Jovenas Salvanos los Rios y la Cuenca de la Amazonía	Colombia
95.	Joel Mendoza	Mirana / Guia Turismo	Colombia
96.	Jorge Oswaldo Silva Carvajal	Matapi	Colombia
97.	Gloria Elena Revelo Castillo	Banco de la República	Colombia
98.	Nelson Ortiz Amezquita	Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje (SENA)	Colombia
99.	Eder Lula Cerquera	Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje (SENA)	Colombia
100.	Edwin Urbano Calderon	Corpoamazonia	Colombia
101.	Celis Dorina Carrillo Amaya	Periodico La Nación Quince Días	Colombia

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E

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IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREST-RELATED DECISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS, INCLUDING AN EXAMINATION OF SECTORAL AND CROSS-SECTORAL LINKAGES

Letter dated 27 January 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of Sweden and Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations and the Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations have the honour to transmit to you the final report (English only) of the Inter-Governmental Workshop of Experts on Sustainable Forestry and Land Use: The Process of Consensus-Building (see annex).

The workshop, which took place in Stockholm from 14 to 18 October 1996, was sponsored by the Governments of Sweden and Uganda. It was conducted in support of item I.1. of the programme of work of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Its main objective was to contribute to a better understanding of the participation and consensus-building principles, and of their implications on the formulation and implementation of national land use and forestry programmes. The report of the workshop should make an important contribution to the discussions at the fourth session of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests, to be held in New York from 11 to 21 February 1997.

* E/CN.17/IPF/1997/1.

In preparation of the upcoming session, we should be grateful if you would have the attached report circulated as an official document of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests.

(Signed) Peter OSVALD
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Sweden to the United Nations

(Signed) Mathias MULUMBA SEMAKULA KIWANUKA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Uganda to the United Nations

ANNEX

REPORT OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL WORKSHOP OF EXPERTS ON SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY AND LAND USE:

The Process of Consensus Building

Stockholm 14-18 October 1996

A. BACKGROUND

1. Actions to promote participation and consensus among all interested parties interested in forestry development are increasingly viewed as indispensable. The need for this workshop arose from the desire to appreciate and better understand the challenges encountered as nations and communities seek to formulate plans and practices in forestry and land use based on participation and consensus. Participants were conscious of the discussions during the formal IPF sessions which drew attention to the need for more participatory, integrated, and cross-sectoral approaches to forestry planning and implementation, taking into account the needs and requirements of all interested parties, as well as policies and actions being promoted by other sectors, particularly those related to often conflicting land uses.

2. The discussions took into account the German initiative on Promotion of National Forest and Land Use Programmes which considered the segments relevant to programme element 1.1, including sectoral planning; policy and institutional setting; investment programming; national capacities to plan; and international cooperation. It recommended that all interested parties should be involved in a participatory and partnership process. It should be noted that while the German initiative concentrated on institutional and planning mechanisms, this workshop sought to complement this effort by concentrating on processes and methodologies conducive to concensus building with a view to enhancing conventional forestry and land use planning.

3. The workshop of experts took place in Stockholm, Sweden on 14-18 October 1996. It was conducted in support of the IPF agenda item 1.1 (Progress through national and land use plans). The main objective was to contribute to a better understanding of the participation and consensus building principles and implications thereof, in formulating and implementing national forestry programmes.

4. The workshop was attended by 48 experts from 21 countries and 6 Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations who participated in their individual capacity. It was sponsored by the governments of Sweden and Uganda and hosted by the government of Sweden. Eight countries prepared case studies which were summarised in a synthesis report. This report, together with the case studies and proceedings, will become part of the documentation from the workshop.

B. FINDINGS

5. The processes of consensus building imply that the real issues and inherent conflicts are understood by all stakeholders. During the review of the consensus building process, the following was noted:

a. There is no common definition of consensus although a number of countries and organisations have attempted to define the concept. A working definition is necessary in order to gauge the degree of successful consensus.

b. Consensus building is a mechanism that can be conducive to successful forestry and land use programmes. The workshop recognized encouraging achievements in consensus building in forest and land use programmes at international, national and local levels.

c. Consensus needs to be judged according to results rather than written or verbal agreements and commitments.

d. Consensus building must be a creative learning process. It involves acquiring new knowledge and experiences that are constantly incorporated in an iterative process. It acknowledges mistakes and transforms them into new learning experiences.

e. In order to participate meaningfully in the process of consensus building, all those involved at all levels of society should be empowered through training, by providing relevant information, by creating an atmosphere of trust and confidence, and by creating awareness of responsibilities and obligations. This will help society learn and appreciate the benefits of acting in consensus.

f. A thorough analysis of circumstances should be carried out during the process of consensus building, including issues at stake, existing institutions and fora, and parties involved. Small powerful groups may try to counter positions of the majority.

g. Society at large may have priorities that are different from those of foresters and forest administrations. Professionals, foresters and others, need to understand the diverse needs and priorities of society and reflect them in their work in order to achieve a mutual understanding.

h. Solutions to many forestry problems lie outside the forestry sector. Therefore consensus building would need to include areas such as agricultural policy making and efficient use of fossil fuels.

i. The consensus building process should help to adopt

societal values that will integrate and harmonise vested individual interests with collective interests.

j. In practice, it is not always possible to involve all interested parties at all times and under all conditions. However, every effort should be taken to include these interests.

k. Through the confidence and motivation that are created, secure property rights, ownership, and tenure of land contribute to improved negotiating positions in consensus building and conflict resolution.

l. There should be a strong link between consensus building and decision making, particularly in connection with policy formulation and planning. Decisions taken in consensus are likely to achieve more sustainable results than those taken in isolation.

m. Methods for consensus building are many and varied. Further, there is a diversity of circumstances in which individual countries can apply these principles. The success of consensus therefore very much depends on how each country responds to these circumstances. This implies that National Forestry Programmes designed during a consensus building process cannot have a uniform format.

n. Trends in land use change rapidly with other developments and conflicts over land use are increasingly common. Therefore, conflict resolution mechanisms are at the centre of consensus building processes for sustainable land use. It is important that the conflicts involved are understood by all parties concerned.

o. It should be taken into account that during the process of consensus building, obstacles will always be met, and risks must be taken.

p. The history and particularities of a given country have a bearing on its current situation and should be considered when undertaking consensus building.

q. It was noted that consensus building requires:

- identification of all issues, goals and objectives, areas where consensus cannot currently be achieved, interested parties, leadership and areas where information is needed;
- establishing an action agenda;
- willingness and commitment of all parties;
- understanding the interests and needs of all parties;
- providing support where needed;
- establishing trust and confidence;
- proceeding at a pace acceptable to all; and

- the process should be voluntary, transparent, open and consultative;

C. OPTIONS FOR ACTION

6. CSD is requested to acknowledge consensus building as an important process to address sustainable forest management to be included in future deliberations at national and international levels. There is a need for continuation of international dialogue on consensus building through appropriate institutional arrangements at all levels in order to arrive at a common understanding of the concept and its relation to participation, conflict resolution and the existing instruments of national forest and land use programmes.

7. Develop mechanisms to strengthen and support research and information exchange on methodologies for consensus building at all levels, including education of all interested parties in forestry and land use programmes.

8. Support should be given to enhancing horizontal and vertical linkages in order to strengthen collaboration between sectors and different levels of planning.

9. Countries should be encouraged to embark on a long-term process of consensus building in forestry and land use programmes, continuously identifying the necessary steps to be taken with respect to issues, institutional arrangements and stakeholders. Countries are also encouraged to share their experiences through existing reporting arrangements.

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E

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COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests
Fourth session
10-21 February 1997

Decision III/12 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the fourth session of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests the text of decision III/12, adopted by the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 4 to 15 November 1996.

The Conference of the Parties decided to transmit this decision, as well as the related recommendation II/8 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, to the fourth session of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests as a contribution to its del[illegible]cations.

Decision III/12 is attached.

97-03634 (E) 100297

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Decision III/12 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

FUTURE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR TERRESTRIAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

The Conference of the Parties,

Affirming that some forests can play a crucial role in conserving biological diversity, and recognizing that some forests are becoming degraded and their biological diversity lost,

Recognizing that issues related to forests must be dealt with in a comprehensive and holistic manner, including environmental, economic and social values and issues,

Affirming also that the Convention has a clear role and mandate in issues of forest biological diversity,

Noting that the conservation and sustainable use of forests cannot be isolated from the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in general,

Noting also that the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity must be an integral part of sustainable forest management practices,

Noting further that the implementation of forest conservation and sustainable use policies depends, inter alia, on the level of public awareness and policies outside the forest sector,

Recognizing the vital role played by forest ecosystems for many indigenous and local communities,

Reaffirming the statement on biological diversity and forests contained in the annex to decision II/9 transmitted from the Convention on Biological Diversity to the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests,

1. Welcomes the comprehensive work taking place under the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and acknowledges the cooperation between the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity;

2. Endorses recommendation II/8 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice as contained in the annex to this decision;

3. Affirms that the Convention on Biological Diversity will be working in a complementary way with the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and other forest-related forums on forests and biological diversity, with a view to avoiding duplication of effort;

4. Decides to invite its President to transmit this decision on forests and its annex to the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests at its fourth meeting;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to explore ways and means to cooperate with the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests or any successor process on matters relating to biological diversity and forests including inter-sessional work, with a view to developing common priorities for further consideration. In this process the Executive Secretary should take account of the research and technical priorities listed in recommendation II/8 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice;

6. Further requests the Executive Secretary to develop a focused work programme for forest biological diversity. Optional elements for such a work programme should initially focus on research, cooperation and the development of technologies necessary for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity. In addition the programme should:

(a) Take account of the outcome of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and other forest-related forums;

(b) Facilitate the application and integration of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the sustainable management of forests at the national, regional and global levels, in accordance with the ecosystem approach;

(c) Complement and not duplicate the work of relevant international forums, notably the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests;

(d) Complement existing national, regional or international criteria and indicator frameworks for sustainable forest management;

(e) Incorporate traditional systems of forest biological diversity conservation;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary in developing this draft work programme, to work closely with the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and relevant institutions, and also to take full account of the decisions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, noting in particular the report on institutional aspects contained in the programme element V.1 of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests mandate resulting from the Swiss/Peruvian initiative on forests held in support of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests, and encourages all Parties actively to assist the Executive Secretary in carrying out this work;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on progress in the draft programme of work to the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties for its discussion and consideration;

9. Requests the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to contribute advice on this draft programme of work and report back to the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and also requests the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, in providing its advice, to bear in mind for possible future action, inter alia, the remaining forest research priority items listed in its recommendation II/8;

10. Directs the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, in the light of the proposed work programme and taking account of the research and technical priorities already identified in its recommendation II/8, to advance its scientific, technical, and technological consideration of forest biological diversity by initially focusing on the synthesis and development of scientific information in the following research areas:

(a) Methodologies necessary to advance the elaboration and implementation of criteria and indicators for the conservation of biological diversity as part of sustainable forest management;

(b) Scientific analysis of the ways in which human activities, in particular forest management practices, influence biological diversity and assessment of ways to minimize or mitigate negative influences.

Annex

INPUT TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON FORESTS

The Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity wishes to transmit to the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF), for its consideration, the decision of the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties on biological diversity and forests, as well as the related recommendation II/8 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA). The decision by the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to develop a draft work programme for forest biological diversity and gives guidance to SBSTTA on research priorities. These documents are presented as contributions to the IPF deliberations and in the spirit of continuing our positive dialogue and cooperation.

Related recommendations

(a) Biodiversity considerations should be integrated fully into the IPF recommendations and proposals for action. IPF should also consider ways to deal with identified gaps in forest biodiversity knowledge.

(b) In relation to the programme element I.1 of IPF on national forest and land use plans, strategies for sustainable forest management should be based on an ecosystem approach, which will integrate conservation measures (e.g., protected areas) and sustainable use of biological diversity. Methodologies need to be developed to assist countries in identifying sites of high interest for biodiversity. These recommendations should take into account national financial circumstances, laws and regulations.

(c) In relation to the programme element III.2 of IPF dealing with criteria and indicators, conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components, as well as the maintenance of forest quality, as part of sustainable forest management, should be substantively included in the deliberations of IPF.

The following research and technological priorities were also identified:

(a) Building the scientific foundation and methodologies necessary to advance the elaboration and implementation of criteria and indicators for forest quality and biodiversity conservation as part of sustainable forest management;

(b) Analysing the role of biodiversity in forest ecosystem functioning;

(c) Analysing measures for mitigating the underlying causes of biodiversity loss;

(d) Advancing scientific and technical approaches to (i) rehabilitating degraded and deforested ecosystems and (ii) enriching biodiversity in forest plantations;

(e) Identifying gaps in knowledge in the areas of fragmentation and population viability, to include mitigation options such as corridors and buffer zones;

(f) Assessing ecological landscape models, the integration of protected areas in the ecosystem approach to sustainable forest management and the representativeness and adequacy of protected areas networks;

(g) Analysing scientifically the ways in which human activities, in particular forest management practices, influence biodiversity and assessing ways to minimize or mitigate negative influences; and

(h) Developing assessment and evaluation methodologies for the multiple benefits derived from forest biodiversity.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREST-RELATED DECISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS, INCLUDING AN EXAMINATION OF SECTORAL AND CROSS-SECTORAL LINKAGES

Note verbale dated 5 February 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations has the honour to transmit the final report of the International Workshop on Integrated Application of Sustainable Forest Management Practices** held in Kochi, Japan, from 22 to 25 November 1996.

The Workshop was co-sponsored by the Governments of Japan, Canada, Malaysia and Mexico, in partnership with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations and the International Tropical Timber Organization and with the assistance of the Kochi Prefectural Government. The Workshop was attended by 155 participants from 36 countries from every region of the world, and from several intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

The Workshop focused on sustainable forest management practices at the field level, in order to distil lessons and experience which might provide some insight to the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests of the Commission for Sustainable Development when it formulates recommendations at its fourth session, which will be held from 11 to 21 February 1997.

In this connection, it would be appreciated if the Secretary-General would make arrangements to circulate the attached report as an official document of the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests. In addition to the English version, the French version is attached hereto.

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* E/CN.17/IPF/1997/1.

** The report is circulated in the languages of submission only.

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATEDAPPLICATION OF SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

INTRODUCTION

An International Workshop on Integrated Application of Sustainable Forest Management Practices was held in Kochi, Japan, from 22-25 November, 1996.

The workshop was co-sponsored by the Governments of Japan, Canada, Malaysia and Mexico, in partnership with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Tropical Timber Organization and with the assistance of the Kochi prefectural government. The workshop was attended by 155 participants from 36 countries in all geographical regions, and from several intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Participants attended the meeting in their personal capacity as experts from diverse backgrounds: public servants, field level managers, environmentalists, researchers, planners, and academics.

The workshop focused on sustainable forest management practices at the field level, in order to distill lessons and experience which could provide some insight to the IPF when it formulates recommendations at its fourth session, 11-21 February, 1997. The workshop specifically examined practical and field level aspects of two issues drawn from the deliberations of the IPF related to its Program Elements I.1: Progress through national forest and land-use programmes; I.3: Traditional forest-related knowledge; II: International co-operation on financial assistance and technology transfer; III.1(a): Assessment of the multiple benefits of all types of forests; III.1(b): Methodologies for proper valuation of the multiple benefits of forests; and III.2: Criteria and Indicators for sustainable forest management. These issues are:

- integrating forest planning into the wider context of land-use planning;
- integrating research findings into sustainable forest management.

The workshop was opened by Mr. Hajimu Irisawa, Director-General of the Forestry Agency of Japan, following a welcome address by Mr. Daijiro Hashimoto, Governor of Kochi Prefecture. A short address was delivered by Ambassador Noboru Nakahira, who with Dr. Satohiko Sasaki served as Co-Chairmen of the workshop. A presentation was made by Dr. J.S. Maini,

Co-ordinator and Head of the IPF secretariat at the U.N., who was invited to situate the deliberations of the workshop in the context of the work of the IPF.

The discussions at the workshop benefited from the outputs of two previous closely related initiatives, namely the Expert consultation on Implementing the Forest Principles; Promotion of National Forest and Land Use Programmes, organized by the Government of Germany, in Feldafing, Germany 16-21 June, 1996, and the Intergovernmental Workshop of Experts on Sustainable Forestry and Land-Use; The Process of Consensus Building, organized by the Governments of Sweden and Uganda in Stockholm, 14-18 October, 1996.

This report which is submitted to IPF, will be part of a comprehensive report of the workshop consisting of a summary of the proceedings, 12 case studies, two synthesis reports on them and several other papers.

BACKGROUND

For several years there have been a series of actions which have attempted to provide a framework designed to create a common or at least compatible and comparable set of measures to make progress towards sustainable forest management.

The decision to organize this workshop arose from the need to relate broad international policies to their practical application at the field level. That way, it is possible to explore and test the combination of factors - political, cultural, social, economic and ecological - which offer the best possible chance to show progress toward sustainable forest management. The methods of analysis chosen were through case studies, covering a wide variety of circumstances and from a range of geographical areas of eco-zones. A diverse multi-disciplinary group of experts were engaged to provide insights by distilling the lessons and experiences form the case studies which demonstrate the practical application of measures of sustainable forest management which are required at the international, regional, national and at the field levels.

There is general agreement that to be effective, field level activities, national level policies and international measures need to be closely interlinked. In recent years, some progress has been observed in translating the concept of sustainable forest management into national level policies. There have been some important developments in this regard, such as the preparation of national forest programmes, the formulation of criteria and indicators, and the results of research undertaken to identify some solutions to the problems of forests. Whilst progress has been made in translating these policies and programmes to field level practices, much still remains to be done. Conversely, field level experiences have not always been incorporated into the formulation of national and international policies and measures for the achievement of sustainable forest management.

The deliberations of the workshop took place in plenary and group discussions. They began with formal case study presentations related to the two themes and general discussions on common issues. These common issues (which have also been identified in IPF deliberations) are the following):

- social (participation by major stakeholders [1])
- economic (financial and other resource needs)
- policy (availability of an appropriate institutional framework) and
- technical (environmentally sound technologies, eco-system management)

The objective of the workshop was to generate practicable ideas. These are formulated into a series of "Proposals for Action" at the field level and within the context of the international policy dialogue at the IPF. These proposals for action are formulated to be both specific to the topics and to contribute to the wider understanding of sustainable forest management. The issues and measures which emerge from the proposals for action must be considered in a practical and integrated way.

1 Stakeholders are any individuals or groups which have a vested interest in the forest.

PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

1. The New Culture on Research and Land Use Planning

A new "culture" on land use planning and forest research and extension recognizes and accepts that integration on a wide variety of environmental, social and economic values, needs and aspirations is essential to achieve sustainable forest management practices. This new culture will only thrive in a democratic and transparent environment.

The new culture recognizes the linkages between the field level and the international level forestry sector. This new culture involved institutional changes and linkages including new mechanisms for decision-making and provides an interface with the public. Decentralization and partnership provide increased opportunities for trust, consensus, and communication among stakeholders. These are the means for the consideration of unique local, geographical and cultural situations and traditional forest-related knowledge in land use planning and research.

Research in this new culture is stakeholder-drive, focused and practical. Planning is iterative between planning levels and evolutionary over time; it results in implementation of planning decisions.

The products of this emerging culture will be a new generation of applied research and its inclusion in all levels of planning processes is an important supportive tool necessary for achieving sustainable forest management.

2. RESEARCH AND EXTENSION

Research should be multi-disciplinary to cover all aspects of the topic, including where necessary, participation by other relevant sectors.

Consideration must be given to reforming the reward and incentive structure for forest research and extension. This may involve:

- providing opportunities for stakeholders to do their own research, including research on the application of traditional knowledge;
- developing rewards and incentives for extension agents to achieve positive results;
- developing rewards and incentives for conducting applied, multi-disciplinary and participatory research.

Participation

Research and extension must seek to involve all stakeholders at all levels and stages on a collaborative basis. The identification of research problems and priorities by stakeholders increases the relevance and impact of the work carried out and thus further the goal of sustainable forest management.

Educate stakeholders in their rights and opportunities for participation in research. Information should be presented in a language appropriate to the target audience.

Research has important implications for the development and application of indicators. Conversely, criteria and indicators are important tools for research in the monitoring and feedback process used.

Field Application

Traditional and local forest-related knowledge are vital components of the planning and research process. They should be collected, stored and evaluated in collaboration with the holders of the knowledge and with their approval. They should be collated with research information and should be incorporated into the process where appropriate.

For greater impact and relevance, research should also be extended from on-station to on-site, involving stakeholders in implementation and demonstration .

Special care must be taken to ensure that technologies to be generated and transferred are well adapted to local ecological, social and economic conditions.

3. LAND USE PLANNING

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Participation

Land use planning must actively seek to involve all stakeholders at all levels (national, sub-national and local) and stages (design, implementation, monitoring).

Essential features of participatory land use planning include:

- appropriate planning levels for the nature and scope of the decisions being made;
- increased stakeholder awareness of their rights and opportunities for participation in land use planning;
- planning and decision-making undertaken in the context of the legal and constitutional framework and traditional land tenure systems;
- use of the appropriate planning and research mechanisms and an understood terminology;
- the recognition that planning is an iterative between planning levels, is evolutionary over time and results in the implementation of planning decisions and results;
- the planning framework includes specific mechanisms for monitoring , feedback and adaptive management.

Assessment of forest values

There are a multitude of forest values (ecological, social, economic, and cultural). A full assessment of forest values will identify these multiple uses of forests and might help to achieve a more equitable distribution of benefits, costs and responsibilities. Sustainable forest management practices require simultaneous management of these diverse values. Some of these values are quantifiable, but others are not. Concerning the assessment of forest values the following actions are required:

- forest values unquantifiable in monetary terms, should be assessed using mutually agreed innovative methodologies and such assessments should be taken into consideration in the planning processes;
- there is a need for research to develop further the methodologies for the measurement of forest values;
- accessible biophysical, social and economic information bases that encompass the full range of forest values, including local and indigenous values, should be developed from these assessments and valuation exercises.

4. INTEGRATING LAND USE PLANNING, RESEARCH AND EXTENSION

Critical features of the new culture are the relationships within and between land use planning, research and extension. These relationships may be both formal (e.g. institutional) or informal.

The new culture for research and land use planning involves bringing additional information to the process, covering the multitude of forest values and other information which exist at field level.

There is a need to:

- develop mechanisms to ensure that at all stages of the decision-making, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation cycle, the input from the researchers and other stakeholders should be timely and continuous;
- ensure that the processes and mechanisms are transparent, meaningful, and informed with the active participation of stakeholders in the cycle;
- develop further the role of networking in the exchange and sharing of information;
- enhance communication and provide greater opportunities for feedback;
- test and develop appropriate methods to implement and demonstrate this integration;
- provide adequate time and human and financial resources to achieve this integration.

5. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Both developing and developed countries have limited capacity and resources to deal adequately with the complex issues associated with sustainable forest management practices. International cooperation is

critical to achieve the collective objective of sustainable forest management and land use planning worldwide.

International cooperation is required to:

- support and strengthen the capacity to implement sustainable forest management practices within the new culture for forest research, extension and land use planning;
- promote national capabilities and pooling of resources to conduct research and extension and land use planning by involving relevant international organizations, NGOs and bilateral and multilateral funding agencies;
- facilitate the exchange of information at the cross-sectoral, national, regional and international levels. Research and international organizations should be encouraged to compile syntheses of priority research topics.